MUNICIPAL SKY CLEARING.

Truly the life of an Alderman in a city like Victoria, where all the people are so well informed, is not a happy one. We all have our ideas on water works and bridges and cognate subjects. Nor will we let our thoughts summer in the brain pan. They force themselves into prominence in a most disagreeable way. But our council is blessed with one at its head who is a master of tactics; who can discern the signs of the times with an unerring eye. The usual consequence is that the will of the people prevails, whether for good or ill we shall know in good time. The water problem has been solved, or rather shelved, for another year. It will stalk forth again like a nightmare next summer. The weakness of the system will be aggravated with the growth of the city and the increasing demands upon the mains. Ultimately some one will come forth with courage to go to the root of the evil and after a deluge of talk the true remedy will be applied. In the meantime we shall continue to jog along in the good old way, learning the lesson of patience and perseverance.

About the Point Ellice bridge question we are not so sure. We have reached the calling for tenders stage once more. When the offers are under consideration we shall probably find ourselves in the midst of another crisis. Then the battle of the experts and those who know more than they will be fought over again, with the prospects of victory to either side not at all certain and the Aldermen distractedly surveying the field and looking for an opening. Nevertheless the bridge will arise in time, either with the spindle shanks of steel prominent or with the strengthening metal hidden in graceful lines of concrete. We hope to live to see that day of triumph of Aldermanic activity over conflicting interests and opinions. Life in Victoria is worth living even if it be one continuous scene of municipal strife.

There still remains one matter calculated to arouse disquiet in the Aldermanic mind and disturb its normal nocturnal slumbers and peaceful afternoon nap. Andrew Carnegie o' Skibo, one time of Pittsburg, U. S. A., is the moving spirit in the one cause of unrest that still remains. The council are in a quandary as to where to place the library the millionaire has so kindly undertaken to plant in our midst. The question is, where is that midst? The people who have no responsibility resting upon their unrepresentative shoulders and no constituents to meet at the end of the municipal year can point it out without difficulty. It is different with the Aldermen, and due allowance should be made for their hesitation. When the question of accepting or rejecting the offer of Mr. Carnegie was before the people, it may be that it was too hastily said the city had plenty of suitable sites. Possibly it was feared the prospects of a considerable expenditure of money would move the ratepayers to reject the offer altogether. Originally the proposition may be said to have been an abstract one. Now it has assumed concrete form and must be taken up in a different spirit. There is no doubt that the city is possessed of but one site that is at all suitable for the new library—that on the water front beside the post office. And there are serious objections to that on account of its limited frontage and location. The choice of sites is to be left to a vote of the ratepayers. If one in a central place and upon which a building in appearance and construction in harmony with the objects of the donor could be secure for a few thousand dollars, surely there could be no objection to the citizens being asked whether they would prefer that to one of the lots owned by the corporation. The library will remain in Victoria a long time. There is no necessity to rush this matter. The needs and the convenience of those who are to follow us should not be lost sight of. The city is growing rapidly. In what direction is it spreading? In what direction must it of physical necessity grow? The decision of the ratepayers to build upon a site of their own has convinced the owners of properties suitable for the building that they must place their prices at the very lowest point in order to stand any chance of making a sale. If the matter were to be left entirely in the hands of the Aldermen they would have no choice but carry out the behests of their constituents. As the people are to be consulted again, we see no reason why their choice should narrowed down to city property alone. It is claimed public opinion has changed since the first vote was taken. It will cost no more to put the question to the test.

MORE INCONSISTENCY.

The Premier of British Columbia has been making some practical remarks to a British newspaper reporter on the best means of promoting trade within the Empire. Some of his observations were rather belated, it is true, because Imperial penny postage has been in force for some time, having originated with the Postmaster-General of Canada, who has been created a Knight in recognition of his services in connection with the inauguration of that reform. But that mistake on the part of the Premier is excusable, because he has himself confessed that he despises newspapers, probably does not read them, is not up-to-date in his knowledge of what is transpiring in the world, and is so fortunate in his circumstances as to be under no necessity of posting his own letters, or indeed caring about the cost of postage stamps. However, that is a small matter.

Yesterday we pointed out that the government scarcely lives up in practice to the principles it promulgates anent the fostering of home industries. It is a patron to the extent of a very large number of dollars a year of a Chicago engraving company. If it makes no effort to encourage industries in the province or in the Dominion, how can it be expected to foster trade within the Empire. It has long been the common belief that the Portland cement manufactured in Great Britain is the best in the world. Yet the British cement was adjudged to be unfit for use in the construction of the bridge which is about to be thrown across the Fraser at New Westminster. It was rejected and a continental article chosen. If we remember aright, it was held that the English cement was not fine enough for the purpose, or something of that kind. The War Office, the Admiralty, not to mention such comparatively insignificant cities as London, are generally considered sufficiently particular about the quality of the material they put in their works and anything they erect, it is admitted, will stand for a few years. If anyone has any doubt on the subject, let him make an examination at Esquimalt or Work Point. Those institutions all use British cement. It is scarcely conceivable that works having such a reputation as those of Britain are not capable of grinding their material to any required degree of fineness. It may be that the Premier means all he says and would have his ministers and their subordinates practice as he preaches. Possibly he cannot be troubled with, or is not asked to consider, all the details in connection with the administration of the affairs of the province. No doubt when his attention is called to the matter he will insist upon a root and branch reform. If trade can be carried on between different parts of the Empire without adding to the cost of articles to the consumer, we think governments should set the example of encouraging it.

VICTORIA AND THE BOOM.

If the business of the Dominion continues to expand at the present rate, Canada will be in danger of getting a swelled head. "Pride goeth before a fall." Frosts may come and hail descend, and ruin the prospects which are now so rosy. But the chances are very largely in our favor, and the twenty thousand extra men required to reap the harvest of the West will soon be at work. There can now be no doubt that the expansion of the great fertile belt has begun in earnest. The rush, which usually wanes as the end of the year approaches and the cold, dreary winter looms up, is increasing this year instead of declining. Winnipeg is booming in a manner such as was never dreamt of during the days of the first unfortunate inflation. It boasts that it will before many years be the second city in Canada in point of population and trade. We should not be surprised if it became the first. New towns are springing up all over the prairies. The growth is of the same character as that which filled up the Western States almost in a single decade. The influence of the movement in the West is being felt in all parts of the Dominion. It is inspiring to contemplate the situation from this distance. We in British Columbia should gather our share of the riches of that great western country, although we have not hitherto been moved to much more than contemplation. If we cannot compete with the prairies in the growth of grain we have here all that they lack in other lines, such as timber, minerals, fruit and fish. The one section of the country is the natural complement of the other. There the earth has waxed so fat in its accumulations of thousands of years that it produces fortunes annually, and its beneficiaries hie themselves to climes in which it is pleasant for man to dwell. Even now many of this class are finding their way to Victoria. In a clime where the sun smites not in summer, the atmosphere is for the greater part of the year genial and kindly, and strains of sweet music rise languidly in the sweet, quiet hours of every evening, the weary worker should find the peace and rest he is in search of. The concerts of the Fifth Regiment band in the beautiful grounds of the old Douglas homestead have done much to add to the attractiveness of Victoria. That movement was the one thing needful to complete the list of the city's fascinations. May the venture be a great success, whether it be the conception of the Tourist Association or a business suggestion on the part of Prof. Finn. People who grumble now will not be satisfied with anything on this side of the grave.

THE ONLY REMEDY.

The shrewdest business minds in Canada have for several years been wrestling with the problem of the conservation of the Yukon trade for Canada and the pieces still remain upon the board with the game all in favor of our rivals. They find the advantage of the first move by reason of the carelessness or indifference or lack of foresight which permitted them to squat upon Canadian territory without a protest. As long as the boundary question remains unsettled and we have no practical inlet to the source of wealth save across a strip of foreign territory, it is assumed that there can be no change. Mr. Anderson, the Dominion trade commissioner, is a practical, capable man. When he has surveyed the field and made his report, no doubt the government will act promptly upon his suggestions, because the matter will not be allowed to rest until territory belonging to Canada is lifted from the anomolous position of being practically a province of the United States. But no matter what action we may take, the fact will still remain that our trade adversaries have the advantage of position. And this will remain with them until we execute a complete flank movement and find an inlet into our own possessions over our own territory. The tariff under ordinary circumstances would be an effective weapon. But the tariff is a mere cypher in comparison with the tolls exacted by the transportation companies which convey goods into the Yukon. Preferences in rates may be given, and as a matter of fact are given, which offset many times over the advantages of the duties. Probably the White Pass & Yukon Railway Company if left to its own devices would be inclined to act fairly and honestly by all its patrons. But the screws are upon its thumbs also. Its terminus is in the disputed territory in possession of the United States. Therefore it is beyond the power of the Dominion government to effectively regulate its rates. At present the charges are so adjusted as to favor the powerful business houses of the United States. It is of no concern to those houses how high the rates are so long as they have the advantage. The consumers must pay the cost of transportation in enhanced prices of goods. This is not only bad for Canadian merchants. It retards development and confines mining operations entirely to the very rich ground. There is apparently only one way to secure a reform. That is by the construction of an all-Canadian road, in the absence of any prospect of the settlement of the boundary dispute. Hitherto the construction of a road from a northern port in British Columbia has been chiefly advocated. That would be the quickest way of settling our difficulties and its first cost would be insignificant compared with the remedy suggested by the Toronto Globe, which is as full of faith in regard to the prospects of the West as the most optimistic of Western people. Our contemporary says: "A railway running north and south through British Columbia will carry Canadian wheat, beef, salmon and fruit to the Yukon, and the Americans, gazing with longing eyes at that fat trade, will consent to arbitrate the boundary question. Railways will tap the rich mineral lands of northern British Columbia and the wheat fields of the Peace River valley. Occasionally the farmer in that region will take a steamboat ride up the chain of rivers and lakes that lead to the Arctic. Tupper's prophecy of 640,000,000 bushels of wheat will be realized, and admirers of that stout leader will say: 'I told you so.' A hundred members from the West will sit in the Dominion parliament and discuss measures for the improvement of conditions in the effete East. Perhaps they will desire to move the national capital to Rat Portage." The weakness of the Globe's remedy lies in its remoteness. The West would prefer to see something done immediately, whereas the picture drawn, whilst very alluring and altogether charming and cheering, is so very far in the background that some of us may not live to view it in all its grandeur.

"PRESERVING" SALMON.

If Canadians purpose going into the salmon trapping business, the experience of their neighbors should be of some benefit to them. On the other side disputes have arisen and there may be serious trouble in regard to where the preserves of the trappers begin and the operations of the ordinary fishermen should end. The trappers complain that the fishermen have been encroaching on their preserves and taking fish from the entrance to their enclosures or preserves. As would be expected, there is only one way of settling the controversy—with firearms. Orders are said to have been issued to shoot the poachers. Precautions should be taken to avoid any disputes of that kind in case traps be permitted in Canadian waters, and we do not see how such a resort can be avoided, because while it is claimed traps have proved destructive in Alaska and there has been some talk of destroying them, there are no indications of a disposition to take any such radical measures across the Sound. Why should any regard be paid to the conservation of Canadian fish or the preservation of a Canadian industry?

Whatever the opinion may be among the fishermen of the Sound, one thing seems to be clear, no attempt is made to enforce regulations calculated to minimize the alleged destructiveness of traps. The destruction of the fish would mean the ruin of one of the most important industries of the state of Washington, yet no provision is made for the opening of the traps say for one day in the week in order to allow a reasonable number of fish to reach the spawning grounds. Such action might increase the catch of the Canadians farther up. Clearly that would be a foolish thing to do. Like their forebears in the East who killed off all the game birds and the game fish, they would keep on killing at all times and all seasons while there remains a fin or a feather. Regulations, we understand, have been issued by the state as to the depth of water in which traps shall be permitted to be planted. But these are disregarded. The depth is only regulated by the length of piles which can be secured and handled. When we enter into competition with the Sound canners will it be of any use for us to make and abide by regulations unless our competitors consent to be governed by the same? Would it be a reasonable thing for us to cease business at certain seasons in order that the fish might pass into American traps instead of finding their way to the place to which nature would guide them? For the sake of the permanence of this important industry. It is to be hoped there will be mutual concurrence and adherence to fair and reasonable regulations.

COAST-KOOTENAY ROAD.

And now the great heart of British Columbia will lift itself up and be glad. Is it not announced that the contract for the construction of the Coast-Kootenay road has been signed? McLean Bros. of Vancouver have undertaken the responsibility of this weighty task. This firm has not hitherto set its hand to works of such magnitude, but far be it for us to suggest it is not capable of executing the task for the due performance of which it has no doubt put up the necessary security. Mr. Wells will undoubtedly contend that the road will be built, and operated after it is built, by his favorite firm of contractors. Those who pretend to be experts will rail and sneer and inquire what great line the railway will be operated in conjunction with after it is completed. It has always been claimed it cannot stand alone; that it must form an alliance with one of the great roads if it hopes to live. Mr. McNicoll has just informed the province that his company does not contemplate railway extension west of the Rockies for some time. The Great Northern seems to have lost all interest in the western section of British Columbia. But it does not follow that if the line were completed, with liberal assistance from the province and Dominion governments, that either of the great roads would not be willing to take up the infant and nurse it into active life.

It is announced in connection with the signing of this important contract that one of the members of the firm of McLean Bros. has gone East to "finance the scheme." As soon as a subsidy "satisfactory to the promoters" has been added by the Dominion government to that already voted by this province, the work of construction will be commenced. It has repeatedly been pointed out that the present government of Canada is averse to attaching subsidies to paper charters for the purpose of making such charters valuable and salable. Works undertaken by responsible companies and adjudged to be for the general advantage of Canada are always sure of sympathetic, just and liberal treatment by the Dominion government. But Parliament makes a more searching investigation than it was wont to do into the status of all undertakings making claims for public assistance. Past experience has made our federal legislators very careful to ascertain the bona fides of concerns applying for public aid.

In case any unthinking person should rush to the conclusion that the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works rushed this important business through in the absence of the Premier in England to represent with becoming dignity this important province at the coronation of the King, or of the Attorney-General, who was called so hastily away to assist the Privy Council in keeping Tomey Homma, a Japanese, off the British Columbia voters' list, or of the Minister of Mines, who has business of importance to attend to in the interior, it may be pointed out now it was from the first contended by the Times that it was always the intention of the Ministers to empower the McLean Bros. to build the Coast-Kootenay road under the act passed at the last session of the Legislature. What the game is now who shall undertake to say. In the light of the events of the past couple of years we fear very few people will be inclined to give the government credit for acting in good faith in this latest development of its policy. However, the season is not suitable for a warm political discussion. Let us wait and see what "turns up."

DESERTS LAURIER.

A hardware merchant thus writes to the Toronto Globe: "I see by the Mail and Empire that Sir Wilfrid Laurier intends appealing to the country again immediately upon his return from England. Well, sir, I have been reading the Globe and voting Liberal for 25 years, but I think I will vote Conservative now, and this is the reason: Before this 'Grit' government came into power I could get all the goods I wanted on the shortest notice from anywhere in Canada, and one firm who manufacture stoves told me, prior to the election, when Wilfrid Laurier came into power, that if the Liberal government was elected they would only run eight hours per day, and discharge half their men. But, sir, since that time I have not been able to get stoves more than half the time, nor more than half the number ordered, whereas they have doubled the men on the pay roll, run time and a half and are always behind now. It is the same way with all lines of hardware. I have had an order for shovels in a wholesale hardware house in Toronto for more than a year, but there is no sign of it being filled. Many other lines of hardware are the same way. It prevents me from doing the business I might otherwise do if I could get the goods. So now will be my chance to vote Conservative and get the old crowd back again. Then I will be able to get the goods when I want them, for the men won't be so busy, and will have more time to make them. Of course in those days I did not sell so many goods as I do now, but I could get them to sell if I had a chance to sell them."

The public men of Great Britain, now that the crisis which confronted the nation has passed by, appear to be adjusting themselves to the changed conditions. Periodically the public there makes up its mind it is time for a change, and the change is made. The retirement of Lord Salisbury has apparently had the effect of releasing many voters from their allegiance to the Conservative party, with the result that the Liberals have gained in strength to a degree which must be very cheering to them. In a short time normal conditions will be restored in British political life. But there must be a great shaking up in the ranks of the party which follows C.-B. or a tremendous slump among its opponents before the Liberals can have any hope of carrying the country over the Tories and the Irish Nationalists combined. The latter have proclaimed that they will enter into no more alliances with any party. Without reorganization of the Liberals the downfall of the Conservatives would mean practically political chaos.

* * *

There must be a peculiar set of politicians in Roumania, or it may be that political life there is not so strenuous as in some countries it would not be difficult to name. The minister of public instruction in that interesting principality has forbidden the girls in the secondary schools to wear sorsets, and has ordered that in case of refusal to obey the fiat the offending instrument of torture be removed forcibly. There is said to be a great row going on over the prohibition, and the defeat of the ministry is among the probabilities. Serves it right, too. Any government so foolish as to throw itself into such an arena is not fit to live. It should send some of its representatives to this country to take a few lessons in diplomacy.

* * *

There are opportunities in all callings save that of journalism. Whether it be through diffidence or an abnormal development of conscientiousness, it would not be becoming of us to say, but it is a fact that the scribes of the present day never encounter such windfalls as that of the Philadelphia physician who attended Magee, the Pittsburg millionaire, in his last illness. He sent in a bill of $350,000. The executors declined to pay the amount. The doctor sued, and now the court has given judgment for $30,000. As a contemporary truly remarks, if that doctor would put on the market the nerve tonic he uses he might soon become a millionaire.

* * *

Now that matters have settled down in South Africa, the inhabitants of Capetown have determined to prove the value of the country by holding an exhibition of its products. It is to be a summer fair, extending over the four months from November, 1903, to February, 1904. South Africa promises to become one of the finest markets in the world for canned salmon and lumber, so it is said. Complaints have been made that American canners got ahead of us once in that market. There is no reason why they should do so again. But our competitors never sleep. This exhibition should be an opportunity for our salmon merchants and lumber producers. All the necessary funds to make the exhibition a success have been guaranteed. The site and buildings will be in a most charming spot, only five minutes from the Town Hall. The number of applications received from various parts of the Empire and the comments are sufficient guarantee of its popularity and ultimate success.

* * *

Man can school himself to regard almost anything with equanimity except an upheaval of the earth. Sea waves appal not one who is accustomed to them. He can meet them and rise and fall with them in his comparatively weak appliances. But when the earth gets into motion the individual feels how completely nelpless he is when confronted by the forces of nature. The heart is well as the stomach becomes sick. The more of such experiences you encounter, it is said, the more you dread their recurrence. May the earth quake anywhere but in British Columbia.

* * *

The commander of the Condor, which operated before Alexandria, looks like a young man—until he takes his hat off. He took to the sea in 1860. He was then a delicate lad and was in fact put on board the warship Marlborough for his health. When he first set foot on board he heard a sailor say: "Poor little chap, he ain't long for this world." Lord "Charlie" has seen many lively times since then and is still sturdy and vigorous. His batteries are now directed against the admiralty to so long served.

* * *

An English paper mentions the names of some ten noblemen who are frequent preachers. Of these five are ordained priests of the Established Church, and one is a bishop who is a lord in his own right. Among these peers who are preachers is included Lord Kinnaird, an acknowledged authority on football, but not less resolute and zealous as a lay preacher.

* * *

The latest report of the British Registrar-General shows that the natural increase in population in the United Kingdom during the three months ended on March 31st last was 95,011. The birth rate during that quarter was 28.1 and the death rate 18.9 per 1,000.

ON BEHALF OF ANIMALS.

Notices to Be Posted Throughout the Province—Advocate Drinking Troughs.

In compliance with the request of the S. P. C. A. many times made, the provincial government has had printed on strong calico at the Government printing office, the following notice which will be properly posted, by the government throughout the province:

Animals loaded on vessels or railway cars are to be provided with sufficient room, food and water.

Proper approaches, gangways, passageways and cages are to be used in the loading and unloading of animals.

The Criminal Code declares it to be "Cruelty to animals to wantonly, cruelly or unnecessarily beat, bind, ill-treat, abuse, overdrive, torture any cattle, poultry, dog, domestic animal or bird, or wild animal or bird in a state of captivity."

Penalty not exceeding three months' imprisonment or a fine of fifty dollars, or both.

All offenders will be prosecuted. Notice to be given to the secretary of any branch of the S. P. C. A., or the provincial or local police.

A. J. DALLAIN,
President.

It is to be hoped that this will have the effect of checking a great deal of unnecessary cruelty in the transit loading and unloading of cattle.

The honorary secretary of the S. P. C. A., F. B. Kitto, sends for publication the following plea for animals:

We are now at the most trying time of the year for dogs. Hardly any animal suffers more from want of water; and there is little or no provision made anywhere in the city where they may quench their thirst. It would cost a trifle of money, and very little trouble, for storekeepers and others in town to provide water troughs in the doorways of their shops. The society would like to see drinking troughs for horses and dogs erected throughout the city.

The necessity is immediate. The committee want the dogs to be free from the suffering of thirst during the hot summer weather. We ourselves can go and have our iced drinks, ice creams, or satisfy our thirst in the various ways that most suit our tastes; when we are satisfying our own craving let us not forget the dogs.

The society is not in funds sufficient to deal with this matter as it requires; but it is willing to provide a certain number of troughs free of cost and deliver to any storekeeper on application to the secretary. All that is asked in return is that a little trouble may be taken to keep them filled, and that the public will respect this property and see that the troughs are not destroyed.

While we are pleading for the dogs, we desire to remind all who have animals turned out to graze, that they must be provided with water. Neglect to comply with this caution is breaking the law. The committee of this society feels quite sure it needs only to make this appeal on behalf of the dogs on the street and the animals in the field and the object will be attained.

The Le Roi resumed operations on Wednesday morning, and the work in the big property will be carried ahead from the point where it was dropped on Saturday night. The fatal cave-in did not interfere with any of the workings in use, nor did the slide, according to Manager Mackenzie, cause a pound of ore to be lost to the mine. The unfortunate death of Superintendent Dunkle gives rise to several promotions. Roscoe R. Leslie, late shift boss, takes the duties of superintendent, with Fred Whitman, late shift boss, as underground foreman. The other shift bosses will be Joseph Thorne and Frank Culbertson.

PURCHASE OLD CHURCH PROPERTY

SYNDICATE WILL BUY METHODIST BUILDING

Metropolitan Trustees Will Be Relieved of a Burden They Have Carried for Years.

A syndicate of well known business men of the city have practically completed arrangements for taking over the old Methodist church property on the corner of Pandora avenue and Broad street, and thus relieving the trustee board of the Metropolitan Methodist church of an incubus, which has weighed upon them for some time.

The building in question is a frame structure, and for years accommodated the congregation which now, with an increased membership, worships in the fine stone structure at the corner of Quadra and Pandora streets. The wooden church became insufficient for the needs of the congregation, and was undesirable also because of the growth about it of commercial establishments. The trustees, when they decided to build the stone church, succeeded in selling the former edifice to the De Cosmos estate for the sum of $30,000.

Had this sale held good, it would have materially simplified the task of the trustees. But only $11,000 was paid on it, and on the death of Mr. De Cosmos the trustees agreed to take back the building and lots for the amount still due upon the property, namely, $19,000.

When the new church was put up they had given a note with the mortgage on the old structure, and the interest on the corner has involved a charge annually of $1,200.

But handling the property for rental through a board of trustees is rarely as readily or successfully done as by private parties, and the revenue obtained by the trustees has always been more or less precarious and uncertain. For a time the old building was used as the Salvation Army baracks, afterwards being employed as a meeting place for the Zionites. Then an attempt was made to convert it into an assembly room, gymnasium, etc., for the Outlook Club, an organization of young men who sought to institute an organization on somewhat similar lines to the Y. M. C. A. None of these insured a steady revenue, and since the Spencer fire the old building has become a storehouse for furniture and other goods of the big Arcade firm, the goods being hauled from this warehouse to the stores for sale.

A syndicate of business men have now undertaken to purchase the property, and administer or sell it, the object being the two-fold one of relieving the church of the trouble and responsibility it now involves, and the hope of securing a profitable return for themselves on the money invested.

The capital required for the purchase is $20,000, and of this about $14,000 has already been subscribed.

The majority of the new stockholders are members of the Metropolitan church, but several of them are business men who believe the property can be converted into a remunerative one. It now pays about two per cent. on the cost price in rentals. The list of stockholders include Messrs. D. and C. Spencer, Mayor Hayward, M. Baker, W. J. Pendray, D. Goodacre, R. L. Drury, T. R. Cusack, Dr. Clemence and others.

The property consists not only of the large wooden church building with a frontage of 60 feet on Pandora avenue, but the brick building at the rear of it, known as the Knights of Pythias hall, in which the members of that fraternal body gather. There is also a frame building back of the hall now used as a laundry.

In all there is a frontage of 180 feet on Broad streets, and 120 feet on Pandora avenue. Sixty feet of the latter is not now occupied by any building.

RECIPROCITY WITHIN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Is Warmly Advocated by a Prominent Business Man of Scotland—Salvation Is Union.

The following timely, and interesting letter from P. J. Mackie, the proprietor of the Lagavulin Distillery, Islay, N. B., appeared in the Glasgow Herald of June 27th:

Sir:—Lord Rosebery has said that the Liberal party will sink or swim on Free Trade. We have just concluded a peace in South Africa. The war has cost us £220,000,000, besides a death roll of 22,450 lives and much property, and what advantage are we to get for all this sacrifice? The answer can only be—none whatever. The German and American are now doing their level best to capture the trade of South Africa. They have been patiently watching the end in order that they may pounce down on it, for we admit their goods into that market under the same tariff as we do our own. Generous Britain! If any private firm were conducting its business on the same lines as this country does, it would be bankrupt in a very short time. We have in our self-satisfied British way been in the habit of boasting what Free Trade has done for this country, but when I went to America and ventured to contrast our system with theirs I was laughed at, and met by the retort, "See what protection has done for us." I was obliged to confess that the progress of America under Protection had put us completely in the shade. Now, with their surplus wealth, they invalid our staid, antiquated methods of doing business, and try to ruin us with their objectionable combine system, which, if successful, will mean, oppression, hardship, and disaster to many.

Suppose America were instituting a beef combine or a wheat trust here with the object of cornering us, as they have tried in their own country—and nothing is more likely—how would we fare? Are we independent of foreign supply? or, were we at war, are our trade relations with our own colonies developed so as to enable us to weather any boycott by foreign nations? I do not think we sufficiently value the vital true importance of our Colonial Empire. The time, it seems to me, has now come for a careful revision of our whole foreign trade and relations with our colonies by practical business men. I have visited nearly every colony Great Britain possesses, and have long been impressed with the necessity of Imperial reciprocity. By that I mean, British manufactured goods to be admitted into all markets within the British Empire at a lower tariff than foreign goods of the same class, and we in return, while admitting free all raw material from our colonies, to charge a differential rate against the foreigner. Call it by what name you will—Imperial reciprocity, Free Trade, or Protection—it is only common-sense, and our colonies are pressing for it. Canada has sacrificed much, and has appealed to our sense of fair play.

We lost America through our stupidity: do not let us repeat the mistake. We are now face to face with a very serious state of affairs. Our colonies have made large sacrifices and given us material loyal support in the late war. Do we imagine it is purely sentimental? The foreign nations are against us, hating us, envying us, and, when it suits them, pretending to love us: but we have the finest colonial empire the world has ever known, and we are large enough to stand by ourselves even if the whole world shut its doors against us. Fortunately it cannot close the door tighter than it is at present without hurting itself, so that we have little to lose.

If we are to remain a first-class power we must throw over our antiquated conservatism, and keep pace with the times. By altering our politico-economical machinery we should adopt the decimal system, instead of wasting time over the complicated system of weights and measures. I admit in the middle part of last century Free Trade suited us, when we had the export trade of the world in our hands, but with the advance of foreign nations conditions have altered, and we must change to meet these altered conditions. To argue that because Free Trade did well for our grandfathers it should be good enough for us also is to deny the necessity of progress. As well argue that because the stage coach was the means of conveyance for our grandfathers it should do well enough for us. Cobden's prophecy that all the world would turn Free Trade is absolutely wrong; all the world excepting ourselves, has gone in for Protection.

The cry of the Manchester school or Free Trade party is that a tariff on imports will raise the price of the loaf to the working man. The answer to that is, what is the use of a cheap loaf to the working man if he has no money to buy it? Take away our export trade and we have no work for the working man, therefore no wages to pay him. How, then, can he buy the loaf, no matter how cheap? Much better good trade, good wages, and let him be able to buy his loaf even if he pays a little more for it, which latter contingency, however, I cannot deem likely to come about so long as the tax is not excessive, as it is in Germany and other countries.

The salvation of our country now is union, and if we are to maintain our position, and not sink into a third-rate power, as we have seen other old nations do, we must face the situation of reciprocity within the empire. Our colonies demand it, and we cannot withhold it longer.

It is a matter for practical business men, and not for philosophers and theorists.

YOUTH'S IMMUNITY.

Washington Star.

Willie escaped from the Fourth of July
And we are as grateful as grateful can be,
And now he goes swimming; and trembling we sigh
And wonder if Willie again we shall see.

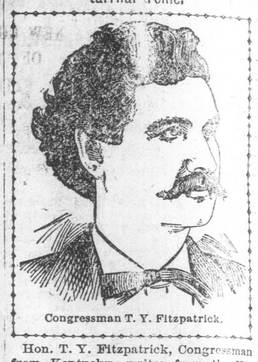
Willie goes boating far out on the lake;
Willie hangs round where the quarrymen toil,
If the dynamite tender should make a mistake,
Willie's career it would certainly spoil.

Willie makes friends with strange dogs by the score,
Roams in the pasture where bellows the bull,
Tries to ride colts that he ne'er saw before—
Willie with Fate has a wonderful pull.

Willie's adventures cause constant dismay,
But hunting for trouble's his permanent joy;
So Willie goes on doing things every day
You daren't attempt 'cause you aren't a boy.

CONGRESSMAN FITZPATRICK

Says Pe-ru-na is a Splendid Catarrhal Tonic.



Congressman T. Y. Fitzpatrick.

Hon. T. Y. Fitzpatrick, Congressman from Kentucky, writes from the National Hotel, Washington, D. C., as follows:

"At the solicitation of a friend I used your Peruna and can cheerfully recommend your remedy to anyone suffering with catarrh or who needs a good tonic."—*T. Y. FITZPATRICK.*

A Good Tonic.

Pe-ru-na is a natural and efficient nerve tonic. It strengthens and restores the activity of every nerve in the body.

Through the use of Pe-ru-na the weakened or overworked nerves resume their natural strength and the blood vessels begin at once to regulate the flow of blood according to nature's laws. Congestions immediately disappear.

Catarrh Cured.

All phases of catarrh, acute or chronic, are promptly and permanently cured. It is through its operation upon the nervous system that Pe-ru-na has attained such a world-wide reputation as a sure and reliable remedy for all phases of catarrh wherever located.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice free.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.